

In The Claims:

Claims 1-14 are pending.

Claims 3, 4, 7, 10, 11 and 14 are cancelled herein.

Claims 2, 8, 9, 12 and 13 remain unchanged.

Claims 1, 5 and 6 are amended herein.

The status of the claims is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A locking device for a telescopic tube assembly having an outer tube and an inner tube slidably received in the outer tube, the locking device comprising:

a securing ring securable inside the inner tube, wherein a guiding ring is securable on the inner tube such that when the inner tube is moved inside the outer tube, movement of the inner tube relative to the outer tube is smoothened due to a guide formed on the guiding ring being slidable in a guiding groove in the outer tube;

a friction element adapted to be securely mounted on one distal end of the inner tube and having legs deformably extending out; and

a wedge adapted to be selectively and movably received inside the outer tube to force the legs to extend toward an inner periphery of the outer tube so as to increase friction between the legs and the outer tube and thus slidable movement of the inner tube in the outer tube is selectively prevented.

2. (original) The locking device as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a bolt extending through the wedge, the friction element and screwingly into the securing ring such that rotation of the bolt is able to force the wedge to move toward the friction element and to force the legs to extend.

3. (Canceled herein)

4. (Canceled herein)

5. (Currently Amended). The locking device as claimed in claim 1, wherein a spring is sandwiched between the wedge and the friction element to provide a force to the wedge when ~~the~~ a bolt is moved ~~away from~~ with the wedge.

6. (Currently Amended). The locking device as claimed in claim 2, wherein a spring is sandwiched between the wedge and the friction element to provide a force to the wedge when ~~the~~ a bolt is moved ~~away from~~ with the wedge.

7. (Canceled herein)

8. (original) The locking device as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a top cap and a bottom cap adapted to be respectively fitted into two openings of the outer tube so as to prevent the inner tube escaping from the outer tube.

9. (original) The locking device as claimed in claim 2 further comprising a top cap and a bottom cap adapted to be respectively fitted into two openings of the outer tube so as to prevent the inner tube escaping from the outer tube.

10. (Canceled herein)

11. (Canceled herein)

12. (original) The locking device as claimed in claim 5 further comprising a top cap and a bottom cap adapted to be respectively fitted into two openings of the outer tube so as to prevent the inner tube escaping from the outer tube.

13. (original) The locking device as claimed in claim 6 further comprising a top cap and a bottom cap adapted to be respectively fitted into two openings of the outer tube so as to prevent the inner tube escaping from the outer tube.

14. (Canceled herein)